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Serial No. 10/762,895
Art Unit: 1655

In the Claims:

Please enter the following amended claims in the application. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-13 (Canceled)

Claim 14 (Currently amended): A process for making a color and odor stable polycarboxylic acid, ~~a polyel~~, or a polyhydroxy acid comprising:

(a) providing an organism ~~capable of~~ for producing a polycarboxylic acid, ~~a polyel~~ or a polyhydroxy acid;

(b) providing a substrate ~~capable of being converted into~~ for conversion to a polycarboxylic acid, ~~a polyel~~, or a polyhydroxy acid by the organism;

(c) providing a fermentation medium containing:

(i) a source of metabolizable carbon and energy;

(ii) a source of inorganic nitrogen;

(iii) a source of phosphate;

(iv) at least one metal selected from the group consisting of an alkali metal, an alkaline earth metal, a transition metal, and mixtures thereof; and

(v) a source of biotin, substantially free of particulate matter and bacteria; and

(d) fermenting the a mixture comprising the organism, ~~and~~ substrate and ~~in the~~ fermentation medium at a pH up to 7.

Claim 15 (Currently amended): The process of claim 14, wherein, the organism is [[C.]] Candida tropicalis.

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Claim 16 (Currently amended): The process of claim 14, wherein, the substrate is an alkane having from about 4 to about 25 carbon atoms.

Claim 17 (Currently amended): The process of claim 14, wherein, the source of metabolizable carbon and energy is comprises glucose.

Claim 18 (Currently amended): The process of claim 14, wherein, the source of inorganic nitrogen is comprises ammonium sulfate.

Claim 19 (Currently amended): The process of claim 14, wherein, the source of phosphate is comprises potassium phosphate.

Claim 20 (Currently amended): The process of claim 14, wherein, the metal is comprises calcium.

Claim 21 (Currently amended): The process of claim 14, wherein, metal is comprises magnesium.

Claim 22 (Currently amended): The process of claim 14, wherein, the metal is comprises both calcium and magnesium.

Claim 23 (Currently amended): The process of claim 14, wherein, the medium further comprises a chelating agent.

Claim 24 (Currently amended): The process of claim 14, wherein, the medium further comprises an antifoam agent.

Claim 25 (Currently amended): The process of claim 14, wherein, the medium further

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comprises at least one trace metal.

Claim 26 (Canceled)

Claim 27 (Currently amended): The process of claim 14, further comprising, maintaining dissolved oxygen concentration levels below about 25% during step (d).

Claim 28 (Currently amended): The process of claim 14, wherein, the source of inorganic nitrogen is comprises a member selected from the group consisting of ammonia, ammonium hydroxide, and mixtures thereof.